

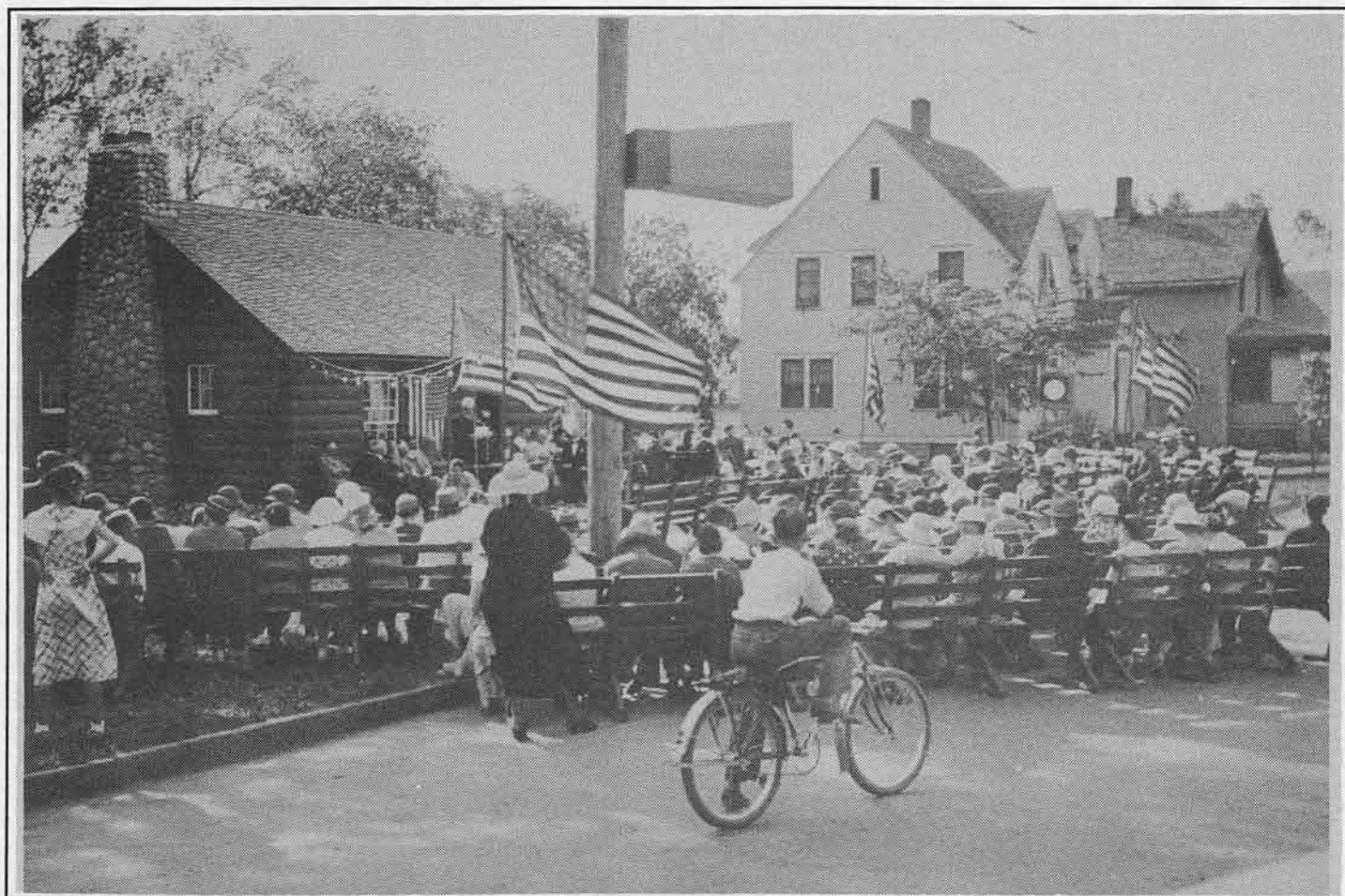
CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CCHS Newsletter September/October 1996 Vol. XIX. No. 5

America's Smithsonian one of nine sites on CCHS Fall Tour!!

(See Pages 7, 11 and 15 for details and deadline.)



**Dedication of the Moorhead Garden Club's Cabin, May 1934. One thousand people attended.
(Story on Pages 8-11)**

Forum Communications Company Collection

CCHS Highlights

By Gary H. Olson, President

It has been a busy summer for the staff at CCHS! Over 283 people stopped by the booth at the Clay County Fair in Barnesville on June 27-30 and registered for a door prize. Many more passed by to view the displays and share their experiences of the past or present living in Clay County. A number of new members were signed up at the Fair and many more picked up the brochures, bookmarks, 60/10 Anniversary buttons and copies of our newsletter. The buttons are to commemorate our 60 years of collecting artifacts and our 10th year in the HHIC building. A special thanks to our staff, board members and other volunteers who worked at the fair booth and other events during the summer season.



Over 147 people visited the Bergquist Cabin Open House on June 27-29. The "oldest house in Moorhead on its original site" was built in 1870. The home was built by John Gustav Bergquist, who emigrated from Smaland, Sweden to Minnesota in 1868. In 1989 the cabin was turned over to the Clay County Historical Society for perpetual preservation. Mark Peihl, CCHS Archivist, provided the historical background of the home to visitors and the Swedish Cultural Heritage Society served refreshments.

CCHS had a booth at the Fargo Civic Center during the Scandinavian Festival. This high-traffic area gave our museum some very good publicity.

The CCHS 1936 Buffalo Fire Truck, an open cab pumper formerly operated by the Moorhead Fire Department, appeared in the Dilworth Loco Daze Parade, a Bonanzaville Pioneer Day Parade and the Moorhead Valley Fest Crystal Bowl Parade.

Planning has started on a CCHS sponsored Fall tour with the option of an overnight stay being considered. See Page 7, 11 and 15 for details.

Jan Ulferts Stewart, Executive Director for the Fargo Moorhead Area Foundation attended our August CCHS Board Meeting. The foundation has been in existence since 1960 and currently manages over \$12.6 million in assets. The CCHS Endowment Fund is currently at about \$6,000 and needs our support and gifting either

directly or through future pledges from estate plans. Our endowment is set up to be permanent and no invasion of principal is allowed. Ms. Stewart noted that "many donors to endowment funds support from three to 10 different charities with their planned giving." CCHS now has an Endowment Committee that is ready to meet with you at your convenience. For more information call the CCHS office at 218-233-4604.

Resource Center Web Site

The Heritage Resource Collaborative, comprised of 11 organizations, including CCHS, now has a Web Site. On this site a researcher can learn which local historical/research organization has resources, what kind of resources, how to obtain the information and links to other genealogical web sites.

The Heritage Resource Center Web Site address is:
<http://www.atpfargo.com/hjem>.

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



202 1st Avenue North, Box 501
Moorhead, Minnesota 56561-0501
Phone 218-233-4604

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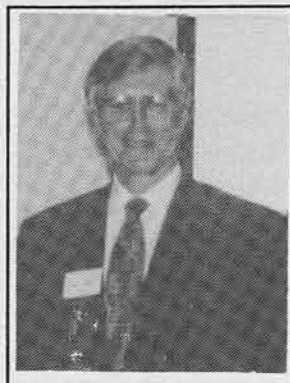
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New Board Members at CCHS --

GALEN VAA

Vaa was elected to the CCHS Board of Directors in April 1996 after being nominated by Robert Kennedy, retiring CCHS Board Member.



Galen Vaa

An early interest in history led Vaa to a Bachelor's Degree in History from Moorhead State College in 1970. In 1974 Vaa received his law degree from the University of South Dakota and has practiced law in the Moorhead area for the past 21 years as a partner with Gjevre, McLarnan, Hannaher, Vaa, Skatvold and McLarnan.

Vaa lists as his special hobbies - hunting, fishing, camping, jogging, and studying history, both local and national. "I believe that our current generation can benefit from preserving and studying local history," said Vaa. As a director of the historical society Vaa would like to see more information provided to the public concerning our ancestor's emphasis upon fundamental principles and/or values in their daily lives.

Vaa has served on a number of councils and boards, including Clay County Bar Association, Red River Serenity Manor, Trinity Foundation, St. Joseph's Church Council and Volunteers for Community Service. Vaa lives south of Moorhead near the Convent Road with his wife Sharon and their 11 year-old daughter, Brianna.



Volunteers needed

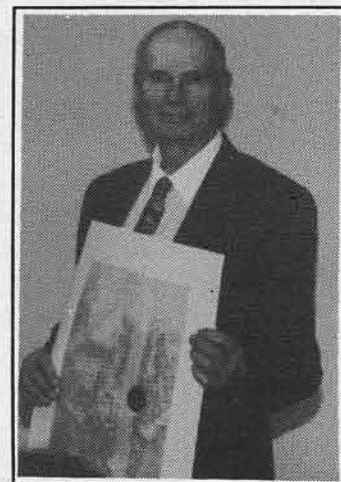
Volunteers are needed to serve as greeters and receptionists for the Clay County Museum. Days and hours may vary but our goal is to cover all hours that the museum is open. This will provide a wide variety of choices for days and time periods. Training will be provided.

If you enjoy meeting new people and are interested in serving your community, give us a call at 233-4604.

NORMAN ROOS

Norman Roos was elected to the CCHS Board of Directors in April 1996. As a life time resident of Clay County, Roos has a deep interest in the history of this area.

Now retired, Roos was a high school history teacher, a coach and a principal. He served on the Hawley City Council for 12 years and as Mayor of Hawley for 10 years, retiring in 1995. Roos graduated from Hitterdal High School and attended Concordia, the University of Iowa, the University of Minnesota, North Dakota State University and Moorhead State University. He served for four years in the military during WWII as an aerial navigator and military intelligence officer.



Roos received a Diedrick print at the CCHS Annual Meeting commemorating his involvement in the building of the Hjemkomst Center.

Roos lists photography, electronics and music as his hobbies, but anyone who knows him will conclude that history is also a special hobby. Roos' grandparents homesteaded near Hitterdal in 1871 and he has "...always enjoyed learning as much as possible about early Clay County." Roos served for several years on the original Hjemkomst Heritage Interpretive Center board and was a member of the Hawley City Council that assisted Bob Asp at the very beginning of his Viking ship project.

Roos believes that "CCHS must attempt to reach a larger percentage of Clay County residents." "The organization has much to offer area people who become more familiar with the organization," says Roos.

Roos' wife Mercedes also served on the CCHS Board of Directors, including a stint as President. The Roos' have three sons, Donald and John, both medical doctors, Howard, an aeronautical engineer; and six grandchildren.

Outreach Displays

	Opens	Closes
Hitterdal Senior Center	Oct. 14	Dec. 16
Ulen-Hitterdal High School	Oct. 14	Dec. 16
Viking Manor, Ulen	Oct. 14	Dec. 16
Hawley Public Library	Oct. 14	Dec. 16
Glyndon Community Center	Oct. 16	Dec. 18
Moorhead Public Library	Oct. 16	Dec. 18
Barnesville Public Library	Oct. 16	Dec. 18

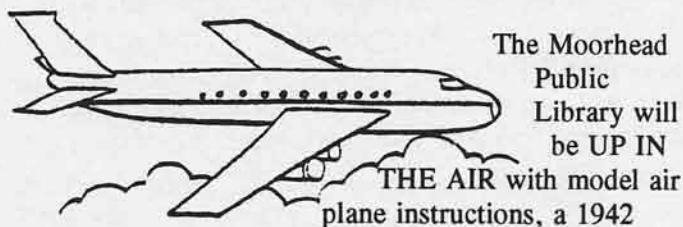
The Hitterdal Senior Center display **LET THERE BE LIGHT** takes a look at lighting devices.

SPINNING A YARN will open at the Ulen-Hitterdal High School library. This display takes you from sheep to shawl and looks at the additions spinning and weaving have made to our language.

LET'S MAKE MUSIC at the Viking Manor in Ulen, showing sheet music and musical instruments from the past.

The **RED RIVER LAND DOLLS** look back at our history at the Hawley Public Library.

PHOTOS BY HAYNES opens at the Glyndon Community Center. F. Jay Haynes was the official photographer for the Northern Pacific Railroad. These photos of Glyndon taken in the 1870s and 1880s, helped to advertise land owned by the railroad.



Know Your Planes identification wheel, our own Florence "Tree Tops" Klingensmith and Lucky Lindy!

There will be **FUN & GAMES** at the Barnesville Public Library featuring marbles, doll house furniture, a WW II serviceman's game kit and other delights.

Artifacts & Donors

July/August 1996

Donors include:

Hawley: Carl Ekre Family
 Moorhead: Ruth Swanson, Donna Nelson; Clay County Recorder's Office, Paul Euren, Audrey Z. Jones, Phyllis Thysell, Violet Nelson
 Osage, MN: Doris Eastman
 Fargo, ND: Kathleen Gossman, Gary L. Stuhr & Family
 Bakersfield, CA: Salvatore Papasergia Family

Artifacts include: photo of three former Moorhead Mayors (J. Lamb, Oscar Martinson, Oscar Rushness, ca 1930s); (4) Lincoln School PTA scrapbooks ca 1946-1972; reel of 8mm film showing railroad footage from Staples to Dilworth ca early 1940s; b/w photo of the Monte Carmelo Society in Dilworth (undated); (5) vols. Moorhead High School *Cho-Kio* 1921, 1926-28 and 1930 and (4) issues of the 1924 Moorhead High School *The Spud*; materials relating to early HHIC programming committee, a transcription of an oral history, the Utke Family history and photocopies of early documents and chronology of Moorhead's 1st Congregational Church; 48 star US flag; woman's mantle ca 1875 and child's sailor suit ca 1965; choir member's felt biretta-like cap; mobile file drawer with an adjustable-height work surface pat. 1938; gopher trap; 2 piece dress and skirt.

Temporarily away ??

Many of our valued members will soon be heading south for the winter. Good for you!!

Since our newsletter is sent non-profit bulk rate it cannot be forwarded. Therefore, unless a winter address or instructions to temporarily suspend sending the newsletter is provided directly to CCHS, your newsletter is automatically discarded by the Post Office and CCHS is billed 50 cents for each undelivered newsletter. This can add up pretty fast when there are a number of undeliverable newsletters.

Please let us know if you are going to be away for any length of time. This will save us money and assure that you get all your newsletters. We appreciate your help and thank you in advance for taking care of this matter.

ON LINE: *Then and Now* photo exhibit:
<http://www.gps.com.life/life.htm>
 (thanks to Great Plains Software, Fargo)

Whaduhwewant? Whaduhyagot???

By Pam Burkhardt

Clay County Collects

It is stated in our purpose that we collect Clay County history. Sure, we collect photographs, certificates, books, clothing, toys, dishes, tools etc., but what photos, which tools? If you ask us what we are looking for, we, in turn, will ask you what you have. Believe me, this is much easier. Why?

There are more things under the stars

One reference book we use is *Nomenclature* which is a guide for museum cataloging. It contains 228 pages of man-made things called a *hierarchical list of preferred terms* used to classify the items in any museum's collections. It covers (almost) everything from an A-frame building to a (toy) zoo. The index is even longer running 242 pages from aba to zymosimeter!

Nomenclature has categories such as buildings, tools & equipment for science and technology, and personal artifacts. There is even a category for the unclassifiable which are remnants, multiple use artifacts and those with an unknown function. We have added a Natural History category for our very small collection of animal, vegetable and mineral items rather than create a separate subject file using scientific hierarchies. Note: Officially, you are NOT supposed to add to this book.

Now that we have determined there are thousands of items out there, some are less likely than others to have a Clay County

connection: a space station (listed under Building) is not something we could expect to get in the near future: an outhouse is. Similarly, a ballistic missile submarine (Water Transportation) is far less likely than an oxcart (Land Transportation, Animal Powered). However, drawings, blueprints, photos, replicas or miniature working models of the above - almost anything listed in *Nomenclature* - could be accepted by the museum. Just remember the items should have county ties.

Nomenclature is a fun book to look through. For example, there are forty-seven listings for woodworking planes with nineteen more referring you back to one of the preferred forty-seven - *Plane, Witchet ... use Plane, Rounder*. There are twenty-six listings for looms (Textileworking) and twenty-three for spoons (Food Service). It just goes to show that there is a lot of stuff in this world and we can't collect or house everything that is out there. It is easier to tell you what we need when you tell us what you have.

Dream Big

Here is a short list of some general and a few specific items we would like for the collections - Clay County connected, remember.

We need an FM Twins uniform - remember the old Northern League baseball team? Note: Two of the new Northern League RedHawks players have
(Cont. on Pg. 6)



The Rev. S.G. Hauge wearing his minister's collar and a confirmation class from either Gran or Parke Church near Rollag. Back row (l to r): Carl Aakre Jr., Irene Braseth Ness, Bob Solum, Ellen Bratlien Nord, Kenneth Haugrud, front row: Bernice Hovelsrud, Rev. SG Hauge, Betty Braseth. P.S. Give us a call if you know the year, church or if you can make any corrections to the above information.

Whaduhwewant? (Cont. from Pg. 5)

Clay County in their background! H-m-m-m! We will accept a few uniforms from school sports as well as a few certificates and trophies for non-athletic events. Glyndon uniforms are represented from the 1960s to the late 1980s. We also need a bustle. (Personal Artifacts, Clothing, Underwear)

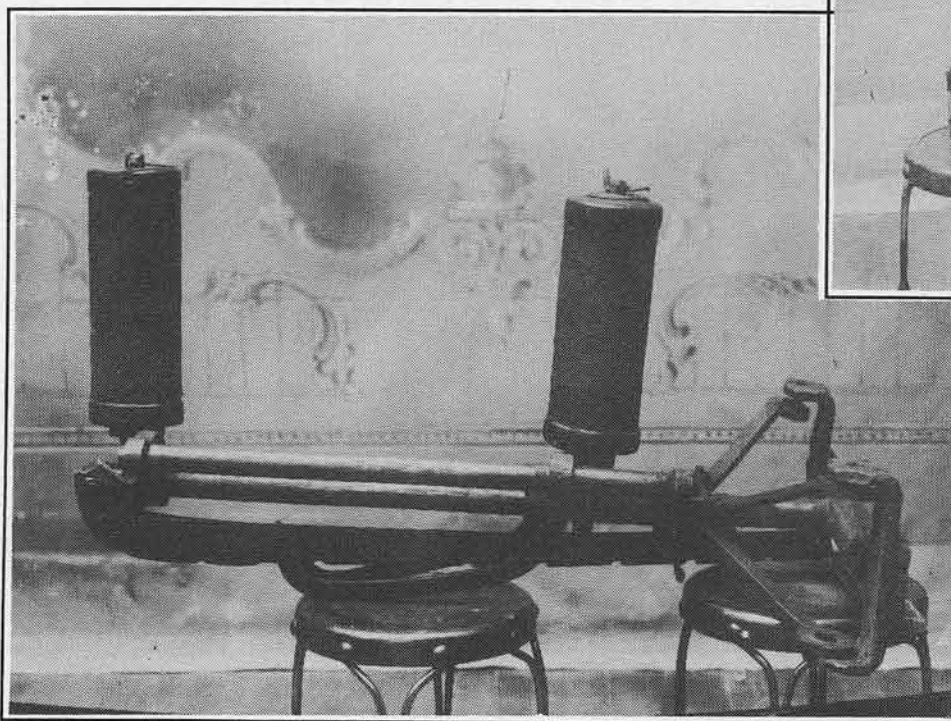
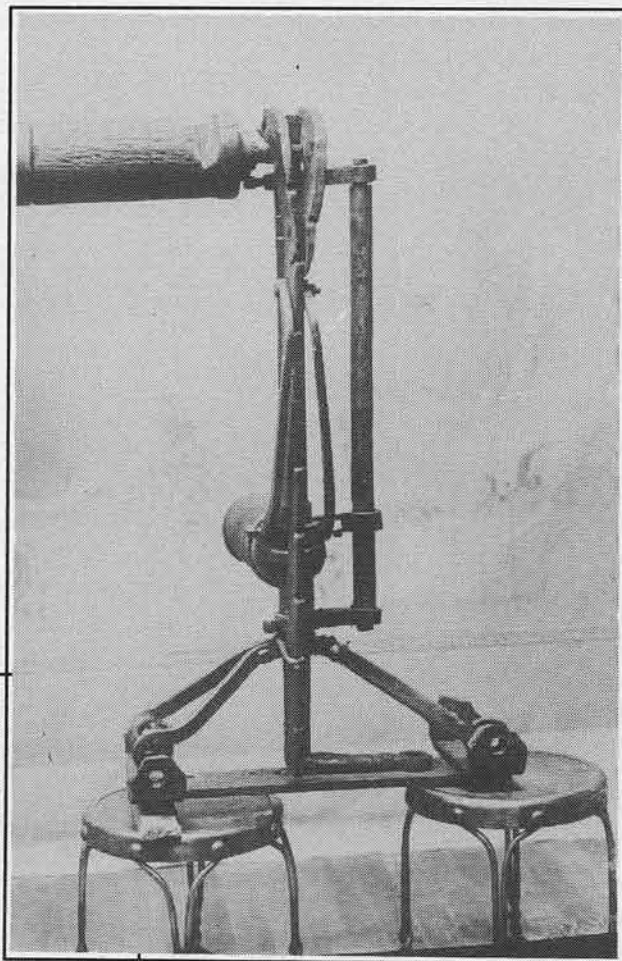
We would really like the Rev. S.G. Hauge's minister's collar - you know the head-on-a-ruffled-platter kind? (Shown in photo on Page 5) This Hawley-Lysne-Rollag-Gran-Park minister, who served from 1900-1954, appears in more Clay Co. photographs than anyone else in the county. We *have* a record of Rev. Hauge singing Norwegian songs!

Speaking of photos - we need photographs, movies and videos of downtown streets, parks and residential neighborhoods, county events, city celebrations etc. In a perfect world, they all would be dated and everyone identified. Has your professional or amateur group cut a record? Send us one and tell us all about it. We would like diaries, genealogies, Red River steamboat logs and hotel registers. Both family and community history books are needed - indexed versions are deeply

What was the device pictured in these two S.P. Wange photos? Who made it? What did it do? How did it work? Was it patented? When? What became of it?

appreciated. We are looking for early and modern Clay County inventions - drawings, photos, scale models and the stories behind them. Business records, catalogs, brochures, signs, samples etc. from farm and home industry are needed as well as from main street businesses - a large, country-wide business is as important as a dressmaker working at home.

We would like premium lists from the fair at Glyndon (and early ones from Barnesville, too) - photos, trophies and other awards as well as the prize winning items themselves, if possible. In 1887, silver cups were awarded in some cattle and horse categories, and



diplomas in the merchandising category. We have only one Glyndon Fair premium list - dated 1887, the 11th annual.

We need the 1st Western Minnesota Steam Threshers booklet for 1957 and the 1979, 1981 and 1990 booklets. We need any WMSTR buttons (pinback type) made before

(Cont. on Page 7)

America's Smithsonian and much, much more ---

Many of us would like to visit the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. but it just isn't feasible. Well, now the powers that be are bringing 300 of the country's best treasures to our very door step. St. Paul is the fifth stop on a two-year, 12-city tour to celebrate the Smithsonian's 150th Anniversary. Prior to the St. Paul venue the exhibit, which fills 80 semitrailers, has shown in Los Angeles, Kansas City, New York and Providence, R.I.

Three galleries, titled "Discovering" (meteorites, fossilized dinosaur bones, the Wright brothers "Vin Fiz" airplane), "Imagining" (paintings, a Frank Lloyd Wright chair) and "Remembering" (Mary Todd Lincoln's tea service, Alexander Bell's box telephone, Muhammad Ali's boxing gloves) will fill 130,000 square feet at the St. Paul Civic Center. Highlights of the exhibit include the 182-carat blue star

sapphire known as the Star of Bombay (a bequest from actress Mary Pickford) and a 170 carat emerald. Artwork will include Andy Warhol's "Flowers," an Alfred Stiegleitz photograph of Georgia O'Keeffe and Auguste Rodin's sculpture, "Walking Man." In the "Remembering" gallery artifacts will represent past presidents and famous sports, music and entertainment personalities. Presidential items include George Washington's sword, Abraham Lincoln's top hat and a microphone that Franklin D. Roosevelt used in his "fireside chats," along with the First Ladies gowns.

CCHS is sponsoring a two day tour on October 24/25 that will include nine sites in three cities including America's Smithsonian in St. Paul. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. For more information see Pages 11 and 15 of this newsletter and then call 233-4604.

Whaduhwewant? Cont. from Page 6

1958. Does anyone have a Clay County Potato Grower's (potato) bag with the Red River Ohios logo? The association was established in 1909. How about a set of Burma Shave signs?

Is there an early Kost Bros. cement block out there with the company name on it? A locally-made brick ditto? Are any of those old block/brick forms still around? An ornament from Richard Herring's floral park in Hitterdal would be nice, especially if it appears in one of the photographs.

Remember Feb. 3, 1959, when Buddy Holly was supposed to sing at the Moorhead Armory? His plane crashed enroute from Clear Lake, Iowa. We need a ticket, flyer, poster etc. from that concert. By the way, that's how Bobby Vee got his start - local groups were needed to fill in. A J.P. Richardson album would be nice.

We have no three-dimensional business items for Downer or Kragnes, only one each from Felton and Averill, and a few from Comstock, Rustad, Rollag and Hitterdal. Winnipeg Junction is represented as well as Dale, but Muskoda, Manitoba Junction and Stockwood are not. Just because something specific isn't mentioned, doesn't mean we don't need it. What do we want? Call us and tell us what you have!

Oh, yes, the outhouse. We are looking for an old one-holer, in good shape, complete with history (you know what I mean - who built it, when, etc.) - clean, of

course, wearing its last coat of paint - *not* repainted especially for donation. **For this one, we will definitely look before we accept.** By the way, where is the oldest outhouse still standing in Clay County? Send us a current photo of yours and, for now, a photocopy of that outhouse as it appears in your family photos through the years. We'll get back to you.

There are many other specific items we could mention. For now, just call us, tell us what you've got and we'll tell you what we want!

Information, Please

Three-dimensional and archival items are not the only things we need. We could use information on the items we have. We will pass along the answers as we get them. Here are a few examples:

What kind of soft drink was "Whistle?" Cola, fruit-flavored? We have a number of the clear glass bottles with "Thirsty? Just Whistle" in white and blue on the front.

In an old arrest record, the cause of arrest for one fellow is listed as "dirty closet." This is police talk for . . . what? [The staff apologizes ahead of time if the answer is something we can not, in decency, reprint.]

We have the sabre and Spencer carbine belonging to Joseph Uebersetzig. Joseph and his best friend Casper Wohlwend went through the Civil War together. They both moved to Clay County and lived the rest of their lives in the Barnesville area. Did Casper bring his Spencer and sabre back? If so, where are they now?

Woodlawn Cabin once

By Mark Peihl

Several times recently, I've mentioned the Society's Bergquist log cabin to folks and they've responded, "Oh, the one in Woodlawn Park?" Nope, I'm afraid not. The Bergquist property, tucked away in a quiet corner of north Moorhead, is the oldest building in its original location in the city. John G. Bergquist built it in 1870. The much more visible Woodlawn cabin is at least ten years older but it has been moved a few times. Originally, it was a horse changing stop on the Minnesota Stage Company's route from St. Cloud to Georgetown. It had a name - Burbank Station.

Usually when we speak of the early days in the Red River Valley, we mean the 1870s when railroads first arrived and white settlement began. But the area's history is much older. From the early 1800s ox-carts creaked through the Valley linking the two main population centers in the upper midwest - the Red River Settlements around Fort Garry (Winnipeg) and St. Paul. In the late 1850s, a series of events, mistakes and opportunities resulted in the Burbank Station's building.

The north-south communication began in the 1820s. On the north end, where the Assiniboine and Red Rivers meet, the Hudson's Bay Fur Trading Company had its headquarters. The surrounding area was occupied by a diverse mix of Native Americans, HBC employees, Metis (descendants of European traders and their Native American wives), and settlers from Scotland and Switzerland struggling to raise crops. The latter made up the Selkirk Colony, poor folks brought to the middle of the continent by philanthropist Thomas Douglas, Lord Earl of Selkirk.

On the south, Fort Snelling stood at the junction of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers. In the 1820s, Selkirkers, disillusioned with the harsh life in the Colony, bailed out and headed south to try life in a warmer climate. They settled near the Fort, beginning the new city of St. Paul. For transportation, the Selkirkers had used an invention of their Metis neighbors, the famous Red River cart. Many others followed through the 1830s.

The HBC held a monopoly on trade in the British owned part of the Hudson Bay drainage. People quickly figured out that they could get a much better price for their furs from American traders in St. Paul.

Soon many smugglers using Red River carts were heading south on regular trails. In the 1840s steamboats on the Mississippi reached St. Paul, greatly increasing the quality and quantity of trade goods available. The HBC tried for a while to fight the smuggling tide then threw in the towel and accepted the competition.

In the 1840s and 50s, the growing Red River Settlements became a major market for St. Paul merchants. In the late 1850s, trade exploded.

It's funny how things can go along for years without tremendous change, then in a year or two everything is different. Eighteen fifty-eight and 1859 were such years for the Valley. Prospectors discovered gold in British Columbia in 1858. Huge numbers of feverish fortune hunters were soon on their way to St. Paul to head north then west across Canada to the fields.

Minnesota entered the Union in 1858. One act of the new state legislature called for a formal road to be laid out linking St. Paul with the Red River Settlements to increase trade and stimulate emigration. In June, surveyors laid out the road across sloughs, rivers and mud holes.

Also in 1858, the HBC experimented with a new transportation route. Previously, the Company shipped all of their furs and trade goods to and from London via a northern path through Lake Winnipeg, the Nelson River and Hudson Bay. It was a difficult passage. The Bay was only free of ice for a short time in the summer. The HBC decided to try the smugglers route through St. Paul. They sent a trial shipment of trade goods in sealed packages through New York to St. Paul via railroad and steamboat. Red River carts took the goods the rest of the way north. It was a resounding success. The HBC began shipping nearly all of their materials via the "Minnesota Route" in 1859.

Also in 1858, the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, eager to increase the north-south trade, studied a map and realized that steamboats on the Red River would cut the cart route in half. They offered a cash reward to anyone who would place a steamboat on the Red. That winter, Anson Northup loaded a sled with a steam boiler and engines and slid them through a nasty Minnesota winter from the upper Mississippi to the

a Stagecoach Station

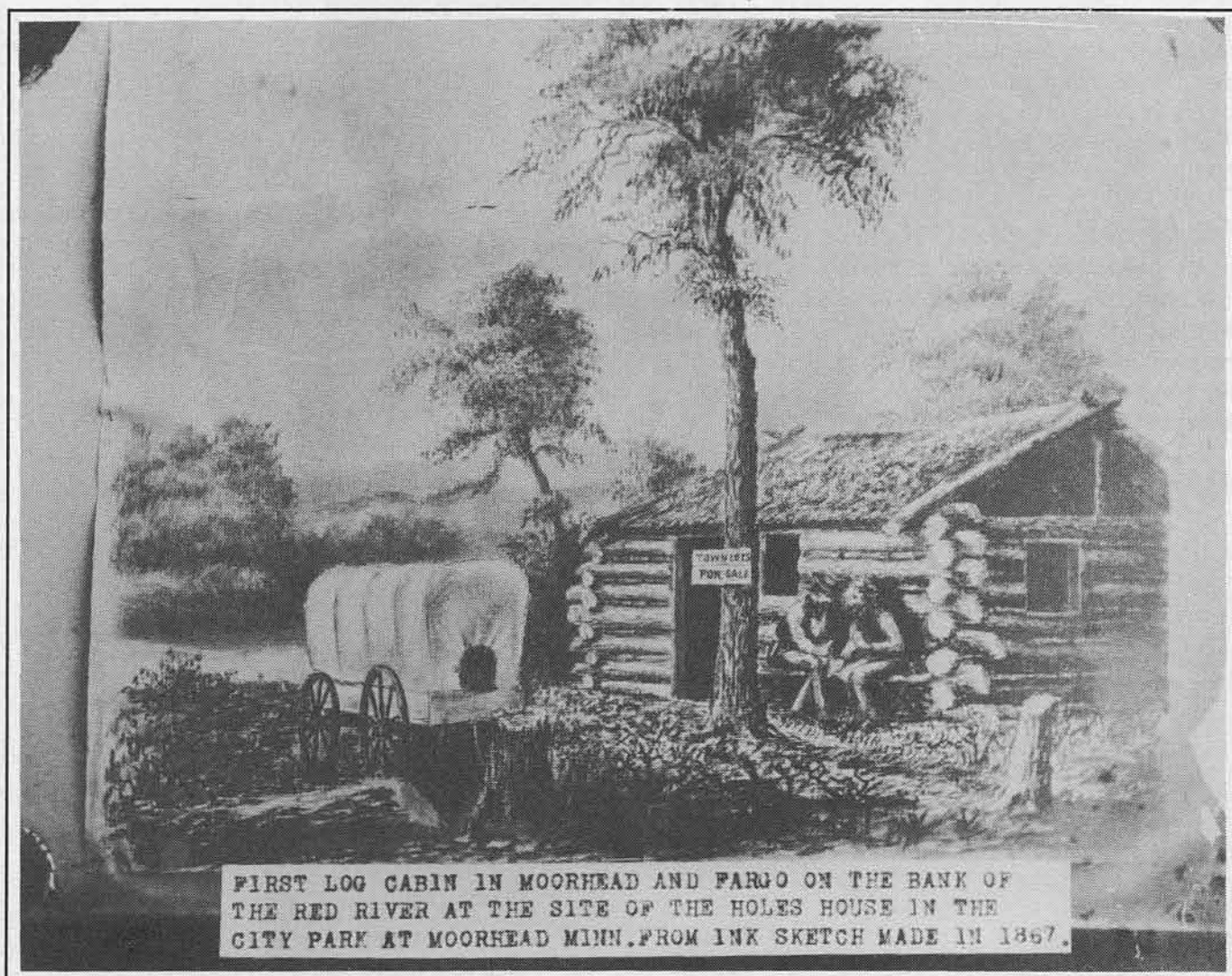
Red. He built a boat at Lafayette, a paper townsite near Kragnes.

The same year, several freighting companies in southern Minnesota merged to become the Minnesota Stage Company. Under the direction of brothers Henry and John Burbank, the company planned to begin freighting and opened a stagecoach line to the Red, apparently planning to link up with Northup's steamer at Fort Abercrombie.

In the spring of 1859, the Burbank's road building crews reached Fort Abercrombie with the company's

first stagecoach close behind. But the freighters were dismayed to find that Northup had had no interest in running a steamboat; he was only interested in the cash reward for building one. He'd abandoned the boat and left to collect his money.

While their disappointed northbound customers finished their trip in a flatboat, the Burbanks quickly bought the steamboat with the HBC as a secret partner. The fur company sent employee James McKay to find a spot for a depot where goods and furs would be transferred between the boat and their carts. That fall, he chose a spot near the junction of



BURBANK STATION? Moorhead Photographer O.E. Flaten claimed this photo was made from a pencil sketch made in 1867. Two gentlemen play cards outside while the sign proclaims "Townsites For Sale."

Burbank Station (Cont. from Pg. 7)

the Red and the Buffalo. He named it Georgetown, after his boss, Sir George Simpson, Governor of the HBC.

This site required the Burbanks to extend their stage line north from Fort Abercrombie. They followed the fringes of the timber lining the Red down the Minnesota side. It was over 50 miles from the Fort to Georgetown, too far for the stage company's four-horse teams to travel without relief. They placed two changing stations on this stretch. The first, about 15 miles north of the Fort, was called Campbell's (located about where Wolverton is now). The second was 22 miles further on and 13 miles from Georgetown. It was called Burbank Station.

Burbank Station was a simple log cabin on a high bank looking over the Red River some 225 feet southwest of the present American Legion building on Moorhead's 1st Avenue North. Just who built it and when is unclear. Local historian and artist Orabel Thortvedt interviewed many early pioneers. Most agreed that Burbank Station was built by Lewis Lewiston probably in 1860.

Randolph Probstfield, Edwin Hutchinson and Adam Stein are generally recognized as the first permanent residents of Clay County, each arriving in 1859. But many other folks passed through, built a home, stayed a few years and left. Lewiston was such a person. A young Ohio native, Lewiston and his English born wife tended the station for the stage

company. Lewiston may have built the cabin as a home for his family before stages started running or he might have taken it over after its previous occupant and builder left.

At any rate, Burbank Station was short lived. In August 1862 the Dakota War depopulated the Red River Valley. Lewiston and his family took refuge at Fort Abercrombie. After hostilities ended and stage travel resumed about 1864, the facility was located at Lewiston Station, 7 miles south of Moorhead. Except for an occasional squatter, Burbank Station was abandoned.

Some people have claimed that homesteader Job Smith lived in the cabin in 1870. Others suggest that Smith's cabin was located further east, near the present Fairmont East retirement home. Levi Thortvedt, traveling with his family to a homestead northwest of Glyndon in June 1870, saw the cabin empty. "It was an old, log building of hewn logs with fairly good roof, but the door and windows were out... A lot of thick and tall weeds grew all over the west side of the house. Bullet holes could be plainly seen in the hued logs from the outside."

In 1871, Andrew Holes bought Smith's claim for the Northern Pacific Railway on what is now downtown Moorhead. The railroad reached the Red River that fall and established Moorhead. He held onto the part of the claim occupied by Burbank Station and may have lived in the cabin for a time.



In 1878, when his own fine home was completed (where the American Legion building stands), he sold the log structure to Charles Whitcomb. A clerk in Bruns' and Finkle's store, Whitcomb moved the cabin to a new location at the present 225 North 10th Street. He veneered the 20 inch thick log walls with bricks (Moorhead pioneer B. F. Mackall later called it "the warmest house in the city"). Whitcomb lived there with his family until the early 1890s when he sold it to the Robert Neubarth family.

The Neubarths remained in the home until 1931. By then it had seen better days. The Neubarths tore down the house to make way for a new home but knowing something of its past, they saved the logs and donated them to the city. (During the demolition, Mr. Neubarth found in the attic a gold ring and a little boy's boot. The boot is now on

The cabin on 4th Street and 4th Avenue was the long time home of the Moorhead Garden Club.

Burbank Station (Cont. from Page 10)
display in the Moorhead section of our permanent exhibit.)

In May 1932, the city turned the logs over to the recently formed Moorhead Garden Club. The Club made plans to reconstruct the cabin in Bowman Park (now part of Woodlawn Park) to serve as a clubhouse and "as a shrine to the early pioneers." Using volunteer and depression relief labor, contributions and help from the city, the foundation was in place by the end of the year and the cabin completed early in 1933. The Garden Club realized that Whitcomb's brick exterior had kept the logs in remarkably good shape so they covered the reconstructed building with split-log siding.

In a unique arrangement, the city turned administrative control of the cabin over to the Garden Club with the

provision that if the Club were ever to disband, control would revert to the city.

Many local residents donated artifacts to be displayed at the cabin. On May 26, 1934, 1000 people attended a dedication ceremony at the site. For years the Club held meetings, open houses and their annual peony contests there. They also rented the cabin for special events.

Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, the city paid for the utilities and insurance on the building while the Parks Department handled maintenance. In 1951 the city rescinded the 1934 arrangement and took over the cabin.

Today, it's open for tours by appointment on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact the Moorhead Parks and Recreation Department for further details.

Overnighter a first for CCHS

A two day, nine site, three City tour!! Sounds pretty exciting, doesn't it? Well, five years and eight tours later we've decided to take the plunge and try an overnighter. You, the members of CCHS and participants of our tours, will decide if it goes or not.

The three Cities include New Ulm, St. Peter and St. Paul, all rich in history. The America's Smithsonian in St. Paul will be the grand finale for the tour (see Page 7), with sites in New Ulm and St. Peter filling out a full two days.

New Ulm

Sites at New Ulm include: the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame at the Old Tyme Cafe (where we will have lunch); the John Lind home, the Wanda Gag home, and the Glockenspiel.

The Lind home, built in 1887 by Minnesota's 14th Governor, features Queen Anne architecture renovated to match its original elegance.

Wanda Gag was the author of the classic children's book *Millions of Cats*, first published in 1928. Wanda, the eldest of seven children, was born in New Ulm in 1893 to artist and photographer Anton Gag and his wife, Lissi. Their unique home, built in 1894, features skylights, an attic artist's studio and open turrets. After leaving New Ulm at the age of 20, Gag moved to New York City and later to New Jersey where she wrote and illustrated children's books and created lithographs and paintings which won her international renown.

New Ulm's Glockenspiel is one of the world's free standing carillon clock towers. The 45 foot tower houses two tons of bells which play programmed pieces while animated figures perform.

St. Peter

The Treaty Site History Center at St. Peter commemorates the 1851 treaty that ceded at least 24 million acres from the Dakota to the U.S. Government and changed the history of our country.

The E. St. Julien Cox house, a Gothic/Italianate house built in 1871, was home to one of St. Peter's most colorful characters. Cox came to St. Peter as a young lawyer in 1857. In 1862 he led 125 men to the defense of New Ulm, then under attack by the Sioux Indians. Later he would ride to the defense of those same Indians being held captive at Mankato and threatened by a lynch mob. The Cox house is furnished to reflect the late Victorian period of the 1880s.

The St. Peter Regional Treatment Center's museum is witness to turn-of-the-century life and treatment in the state's earliest psychiatric treatment facility. Opened in 1866, this facility was home at one time to 2,700 residents. This first Minnesota Hospital for Insane is still active, now known as the St. Peter Regional Treatment Center with an average daily census of 550, ¼ the number from 34 years ago.

The final stop at St. Peter will be lunch at the Gustavus Adolphus cafeteria followed by a campus tour of historic sites such as Christ Chapel and Old Main.

Rural Free Delivery of Mail Established in 1896

Rural free delivery of mail was established on October 1, 1896. Such a service was first officially suggested by Postmaster General John Wanamaker, in his annual report for the fiscal year 1891.

On January 5, 1892, James O'Donnell of Michigan introduced a bill in the House of Representatives authorizing rural mail delivery. His bill carried an appropriation of \$6,000,000. It did not pass. Later Thomas E. Watson, a congressman from Georgia, sponsored a bill which appropriated \$10,000 for experimental rural mail delivery. This was passed by Congress March 3, 1893, and on July 16, 1894, a sum of \$20,000 was appropriated for the same purpose. But the postmaster general did not deem these amounts sufficient for the proper introduction of an experimental service, so they were not used.

On June 9, 1896, the sum of \$10,000, together with the former appropriations of \$30,000 was made available, and the first experimental rural mail delivery service was established on October 1 of that year, simultaneously on three routes - from Charles Town, Uvilla and Halltown, all in West Virginia.

The results were so satisfactory that nine months after the establishment of the first routes the service had grown to 82 routes and by 1902 there were more than 11,000 in operation. May 1, 1935, the rural delivery routes numbered 35,102.
From Country Press, July 31, 1938

Memorials

To the Bergquist Cabin:
from Paul Person in memory of
Herbert & Helen Byrd
from LaVonne Rebholz in memory
of Dewey Bergquist.

Donations

Many thanks to the following for their monetary gifts to CCHS.

Esther Olson, Moorhead
Galen Vaa, Moorhead
Skandinavian Hjemkomst Festival
Barnesville Potato Days Festival



Labor Saving Devices in the Home

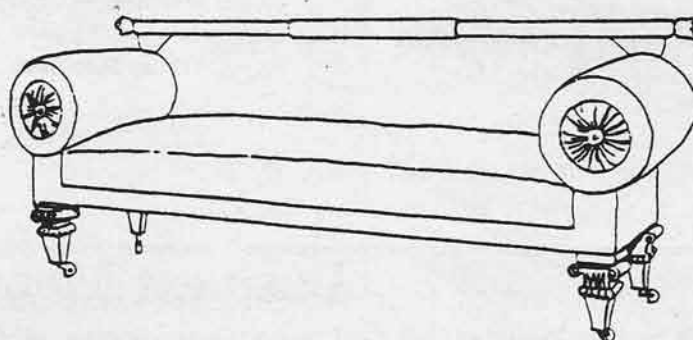
From the 1920 *Standard Reference Work for Home, School and Library*

CLAY COUNTY MUSEUM

features

"60 Years of Collecting"

The Clay County Museum opened in 1936 with 107 articles on view. Today our collections total over 20,000 artifacts. Come see some of the first articles collected and some of the most popular, including a few of our curiosities and relics.



This late 1700s sofa has a wonderfully rich provenance (good word for history). Come in and learn all about it!!!

Closing Soon:

"Moorhead, August 1923" A unique view of what Moorhead looked like in 1923.

"Old Ruby: Red River of the North" Topics include: steamboating & recreation

PERMANENT EXHIBIT includes unique characterizations of one facet of the history of towns in the county. Together they form a chapter in the overall history of Clay County.

Hours are: 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 9-9 Thurs. 12-5 Sun.
Lower level of Hjerkomst Center, 202 1st Ave. N., Mhd. - FREE ADMISSION

CCHS Memberships - New and Renewals

July/August 1996

CCHS extends a very special thank you to the following individuals who have renewed their membership for another year.

Rae P. Haynes, Durango, CO
 Lloyd Sunde, Moorhead
 Evalyn M. Hansen, Moorhead
 Ruth & Morris Lanning, Moorhead
 Bob & JoAnn Nyquist, Moorhead
 Esther Olson, Moorhead
 Marlene Ames, Fargo
 Les Bakke, Moorhead
 Pearl Grover, Moorhead
 Tim McLarnan, Moorhead
 Arthur J. Nix, Moorhead
 Steven B. Olson, Moorhead
 Ardis & Milton Severson, Moorhead
 Aldrich & Meredith Bloomquist, Mhd.
 Bette Haring, Lake Park
 Kent Knutson, Moorhead
 Dorothy Garven, Los Angeles, CA
 Janet Gorman, Columbia MD

Ione Diirro, Moorhead
 Lorraine Haugstad, Moorhead
 Allen County Public Library,
 Ft. Wayne, IN
 James Antonen, Moorhead
 William Fay, Cocoa Beach, FL
 Dana Powers, Rochert
 Catherine Scheibe, LaMoure ND
 Matt Scheibe, LaMoure, ND
 Marion Bjorndahl, Hawley
 Helen Glawe, Barnesville
 Mark Grommesh, Barnesville
 Mabel K. Johnson, Moorhead
 H. Allen Ohrt, Fargo
 Collin C. Peterson, Detroit Lakes
 Owen & Fern Voxland, Moorhead
 Olaf & Verna Cartford, Moorhead
 Paul & Florence Korsmo, Moorhead
 Sara Lee Cook, St. Paul
 Lawrence Kava, Barnesville
 Donna Merchant, Minneapolis
 Stanley Skogen, Fargo
 Royce Yeater, Moorhead

J. Donald & Naomi Rice, Moorhead
 Delmar & Rhoda Hansen, Moorhead
 Dorothy Johnson, Moorhead
 Evelyn Langlie, Moorhead
 Marguerite Wardeberg, Barnesville
 John Haugland, Park Rapids
 Diane Haugen, Barnesville
 Nancy Tedros, Fertile, IA

CCHS welcomes the following new members:

Galen Vaa, Moorhead
 Faye B. Wells, Vancouver, WA
 Edgar B. Peterson, Burbank, CA
 Justine M. Kingham, Wash. D.C.
 Roger J. Minch, Fargo

Business Memberships

Thank You to the following businesses and organizations for their support!!!

Altrusa International Club, Moorhead
American Bank, Moorhead
Bentley & Bentley, DDS, Hawley
Case Corporation, Fargo
Cass-Clay Creamery, Inc., Fargo
City of Barnesville, Barnesville
F-M Printing, Moorhead
Fargo Forum, Fargo
Gjevre, McLarnan, Hannaher, Vaa,
Skatvold and McLarnan, Attorneys,
Moorhead
Gunhus, Grinnell, Klinger, Swenson
and Guy, Ltd, Moorhead
Home Builders Association
of Fargo-Moorhead

Hornbachers Foods, Moorhead
Korsmo Funeral Service, Moorhead
Mid-Day Lions, Moorhead
Mhd Area Retired Educators Association
Moorhead Central Lions Club, Moorhead
Moorhead Kiwanis, Moorhead
Norwest Bank MN, West N.A., Mhd
Sellin Brothers, Hawley
United Electric Serv. & Supply, Inc, Fgo
Wal-Mart Foundation, Dilworth
Ward Muscatell Auto, Moorhead
Wright Awning Company, Moorhead
Wright Funeral Home, Moorhead

(See the back cover for information on becoming a business member.)

CCHS Fall Tour

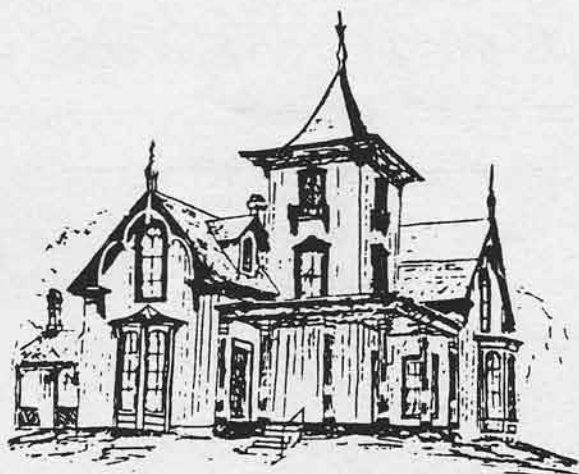
to America's Smithsonian

at the St. Paul Civic Center

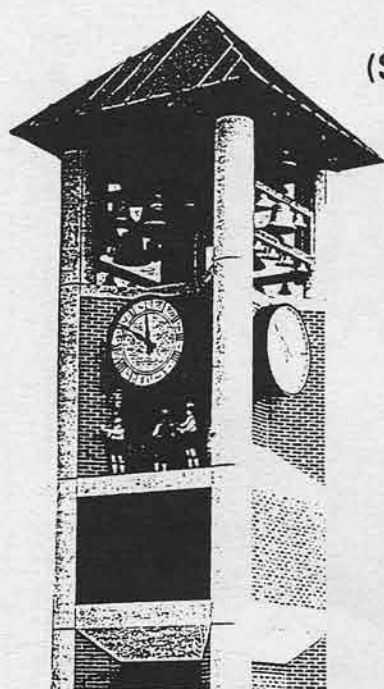
plus: 8 sites in
New Ulm and St. Peter

Thursday/Friday Oct. 24 & 25

(See Page 11 for details)



*E. St. Julien Cox House at St. Peter.
Gothic/Italianate architecture built in 1871.*



Glockenspiel Clock at New Ulm

You must be a CCHS Member to join us.
Individual Memberships are just \$15.
Join now by calling 233-4604!!

\$110 includes all site fees,
bus fare, motel & four meals.

Registration Deadline is: Monday, Oct. 14

For more information and/or to register

Call 233-4604

Clay County Historical Society, Box 501, Moorhead, MN 565601

CCHS Business Membership

- ☐ . \$ 50 to \$99 . Supporting Member
- ☐ . \$ 100 to \$199 Sustaining Member
- ☐ . \$ 200 to \$499 Patron
- ☐ . \$ 500 and up . Major Exhibit Sponsor

As a CCHS Business Member you will receive all benefits of an individual membership plus a certificate ready to frame and display, extra complimentary passes to the Hjemkomst Center's exhibits and a listing in all CCHS bi-monthly Newsletters. To become a CCHS Business Member please return this form or a facsimile to CCHS, Box 501, Moorhead, MN 56561-0501 or call 233-4604.

Business: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

CCHS-1996 Membership Form

I would like to become a member of Clay County Historical Society.

☐ INDIVIDUAL \$15.00 ☐ FAMILY \$35.00 ☐ Donation

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- * Support preservation of our heritage
- * Bi-monthly newsletter
- * Discount on Acid-Free Materials
- * FREE Admission to Clay County Museum & Archives and two complimentary passes to the Center's Exhibits
- * Discount on Photo Reproduction
- * Voting Privileges
- * Invitation to all CCHS events

NAME: _____

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CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA 56561-0501

Address Correction Requested